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ONE OF THE most curious aspects of the whole Watergate investigation is the way that names which have become familiar to us through Watergate also crop up in the events surrounding the assassination of President John Kennedy in Dallas in November, 1963. It is a remarkable coincidence that among the many hundreds of thousands of people in Dallas on the day of the assassination was a defeated Presidential candidate by the name of Richard Nixon. He was in Dallas on the business of Pepsico, the soft drink firm for which he performed legal services between his Vice and his full Presidency. Another Dallas name with which we have recently become familiar is that of Mr Leon Jaworski, whom President Nixon appointed to be his Special Prosecutor on Watergate after Archibald Cox had been fired. I revealed last week that Mr Jaworski was the man who cast doubt upon the intriguing theory that Lee Harvey Oswald had ever been in the pay of the FBI.

Readers may be surprised to learn that Mr Jaworski took a keen interest in the fate of Mr Oswald in the two days between Oswald's arrest and his murder by Jack Ruby. During these two days (in which the Dallas police allegedly took no record whatsoever of any interrogations) Oswald was never indicted, and concern for his legal rights led the President of the Dallas Bar Association, Mr H. Louis Nichols, to accede to the requests of law school academics and visit Oswald in Police HQ. After this visit, Nichols was telephoned by Mr Leon Jaworski, who claimed to be a private lawyer representing the American Trial Lawyers Association. (Vol. 7 of the Hearing before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy, page 332). At this time, Mr Jaworski was in fact employed as a special counsel to the Attorney General of Texas. Mr Jaworski's inquiries about Oswald's statements to Nichols could be seen as an attempt to infiltrate Oswald's defence by a lawyer who would have been part of the prosecution team. Under American law, this telephone call of Jaworski's could arguably have led to the setting aside of any conviction Oswald was given. As we all know, Oswald was killed before he was even indicted. One wonders why President Nixon's new Special Prosecutor took such a risk.

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